IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE PATENT APPLICATION EXAMINING OPERATIONS

Applicant: Aaron B. Lian et al. Group Art Unit: 3673

Serial No.: Examiner:

(Cont. of 09/900,834)

Filed : July 8, 2003

Title : LOCK WITH INTERNAL RETAINER

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

1600 ODS Tower 601 S.W. Second Avenue Portland, Oregon 97204-3157 July 8, 2003

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants provide the following preliminary remarks for consideration prior to examination of this continuation application.